GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1490
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2007
NEW ECONOMIC ZONES AND EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES
Subbarayan Shri K.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed New Economic Zones (NEZs) and existing Export Processing Zones (EPZs) come under the preview of Indian Labour Laws;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total workforce involved in these zones at present, gender-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to enact Special Labour Laws to protect the interests of the workforce engaged in such zones; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) : All laws including labour laws are applicable in Special Economic Zones (SEZs). At present there are no Export Processing Zones in the country.

(c) : The total workforce employed in the Special Economic Zones at present is above two and a half lakhs including over 1.7 lakhs employed in Government SEZs. Approximately 40% of the workforce employed in Government SEZs are females.

(d) & (e): There is no such proposal.